



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 10/019,400
Applicant : YAMASOTO et al.
Filed: : December 28, 2001
TC/A.U. : 3728
Examiner : John G. Pickett

Confirmation No.: 1864

Docket No. : 7388/72545
Customer No. : 42798

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, VA 22202

May 27, 2005

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter this Amendment in response to the November 30, 2004,
Final Office Action.

(1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

(2) Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

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Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2004

Yuichi and Tsukahara does not overcome the above-stated deficiency of Wilking.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 5, 13-17 would not have been suggested to a person of only ordinary skill in the art by Wilking alone or in combination with Yuichi and Tsukahara et al.

Conclusion:

Applicants submit that the above pending claims are now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit such Notice.

Respectfully submitted,

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